

News Release

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Summer Jobs Safety: Federal Agencies Launch Effort to help Teen Workers Stay Safe and Healthy on the Job this Summer

WASHINGTON – Millions of American teens are preparing to enter the workforce this summer doing a variety of jobs that will teach them valuable skills. While most will earn extra money and gain valuable work experience, many risk being seriously or even fatally injured on the job.

Eighty percent of U.S. teenagers work during their high school years. In 2001, 45,000 teens were injured at work, and 175 died as a result of an on the job injury.

To address this challenge, numerous federal agencies, collectively known as the **Federal Network for Young Worker Safety and Health (FedNet)** have joined together to educate teens, their parents, counselors and employers on how young people can stay safe on the job.

FedNet's latest web-based product, **Teen Summer Jobs: Safety Pays** is available at www.osha.gov/teens. It provides teen worker safety and health materials in English and Spanish. Topics covered include safe driving, lawn care, life guarding, farm work, construction, parks and recreation and restaurants.

"We, the participants in FedNet, are excited about this new resource that will help teenagers to get the training and education necessary to keep them safe on the job," said OSHA Administrator John Henshaw. "By joining together to provide practical information to a wide range of young workers, we can help ensure that they have safe and healthy work experiences."

There are five basic things teens can to help reduce the risk of injuries and illnesses:

1. Know their workplace rights;
2. Talk to their employer;
3. Stay alert and work safe;
4. Get safety and health training; and
5. Find and follow practical safety tips like those found at www.osha.gov/teens.

The nine FedNet agencies committed to coordinating their efforts to help reduce work-related injuries and illnesses among teen-age workers includes the following departments:

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| • U.S. Department of Commerce | • U.S. Department of the Interior |
| • U.S. Department of Education | • U.S. Department of Labor |
| • U.S. Department of Health & Human Services | • U.S. Department of Transportation |
| | • U.S. Environmental Protection Agency |